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# RETURN OF THE SERIES

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PAGE 15

HALIFAX

# metro

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Wednesday, October 31, 2012



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## SAVAGED BY SANDY

People look at homes and businesses destroyed during Superstorm Sandy on Tuesday in the Rockaway section of the Queens borough of New York City. At least 50 people were reportedly killed in the U.S. by Sandy as millions of people in the eastern United States endured widespread power outages, flooded homes and downed trees. Sandy coverage, pages 6, 8 and 12. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

### Changes adding up

Province alters math courses in bid to improve lagging test scores PAGE 4

### Poised for a breakthrough?

Mooseheads' Martin Frk hopes to build off his best game of the season PAGE 24

### Rock down to Electric Ave.

Communications firm providing a jolt to solar charging stations in Canada PAGE 27

# St. Patrick's-Alexandra fight settled

## Council concedes.

Outgoing regime will not appeal court ruling that quashed sale

The outgoing council ended its tenure with a decision to restart the sale of a shuttered school, giving non-profit groups the first crack at the former St. Patrick's-Alexandra property.

The decision finally ends an almost yearlong battle between three north-end community groups and the municipality, which had previously approved the sale of the property to Jono Developments for \$3 million.

Last month, the Nova Scotia Supreme Court quashed the decision to sell the property to Jono. Council decided Tuesday not to appeal that decision and refund Jono its deposit.

"There will be a public-consultation process to begin with

and then the opportunity will go to non-profit groups to bring forward submissions," Coun. Jennifer Watts said after what was council's final meeting before the new council is sworn in next week. "Council may decide to accept one of those. If not, then it would move out into the more market-value requests."

Watts said the decision is a win for the non-profits groups, who argued the municipality had not followed its own rules in selling the school property.

"It is recognizing what the community groups had requested that the policy be followed. It certainly meets the intent of the court decision, that we go back to follow the process," said Watts.

Outgoing Coun. Dawn Sloane agrees. "Public consultation is something that we need to do," she said. "Public consultation and community engagement is not something that we

## Quoted

"Staff are working on another policy, which should come in the next two months, to deal with surplus properties."

Coun. Jennifer Watts

just say, 'Oh, we have to do that again.' We should do it because we actually want to hear from the citizens."

City staff members are currently working on a policy to address the sale of surplus properties, which should be ready in the next couple of months.

That policy was expected to include the Gordon Bell school property in Dartmouth, but an amendment removed it from Tuesday's decision.

ALY THOMSON/METRO

MORE PARTING SHOTS FROM COUNCIL, PAGE 3



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## Resurrected debate

## Council revisits, but doesn't change, garbage contract

Regional council resurrected a debate to extend the municipality's residential garbage-collection arrangement on Tuesday, only to arrive at the same outcome as a previous vote that extends the contract by one year.

Coun. Reg Rankin had argued that the city could be missing out on better offers than the current \$12.7-million untendered contract.

Rankin said although staff had indicated that it's the most cost-effective option, contractors are not currently compelled to compete and could offer a better deal if given the chance.

Some councillors agreed.

"There's nothing wrong with competition," said Coun. Steve Adams.

But others argued that it only extends the contract by one year — from July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014 — at which point more options can be examined.

Staff said the city is currently reviewing its waste-management program, including the collection system, and told council the extension would save about \$260,000.

"I don't think that we can sit here today and put that burden on the taxpayers," said Coun. Gloria McCluskey.

Coun. David Hendsbee agreed, saying that opening up the tender would invite greater cost risks.

After about 45 minutes of discussion, council decided to stand by its original decision and extend the contract.

ALY THOMSON/METRO



Members of the current Halifax Regional Council meet at the World Trade and Convention Centre for the last time before the newly elected councillors are sworn in next week. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# No decision yet on Skye Halifax

## Design review. Outgoing representatives defers decision on development



ALY THOMSON  
halifax@metronews.ca

The new regional council will have to decide the fate of the skyscraping twin towers in downtown Halifax, the outgoing council decided Tuesday.

In one of its final decisions, the four-year-old council voted to defer discussing a report from the city's design review

committee that recommends against amending current planning policies to allow the construction of Skye Halifax.

According to HRM by Design rules, the maximum height permitted for the Granville Street site is 66 metres. The towers, at 172 metres, would shatter that.

A solicitor for HRM explained that if council deferred the recommendation to reject the multimillion-dollar project, it could go to first reading and, in turn, a public hearing.

That's something outgoing Coun. Steve Streach said he wanted from the beginning.

"I always thought this needed to go to the people and we need to hear what the

## Pricetag

## \$350M

The cost of the proposed Skye Halifax project.

community has to say," said Streach. "We need to have an open mind going into the future."

But Coun. Dawn Sloane said that council has heard enough feedback from the community.

"We've heard from the public," said Sloane, who was also speaking at her last council meeting. "I think we should defeat this.... I say we defeat it now, period."

The report from the design review committee highlights five violations of existing planning policies in the new proposal, including the violation of the Citadel Rampart View requirements and of street and boundary setbacks.

City staff have also recommended rejecting the United Gulf Developments Ltd. project — a revised version of the company's initial, and controversial, "Twisted Sisters" plan.

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission has also been consistently against the proposed building, saying that it supports development in the downtown core but not a project that's so contrary to the municipality's design plan.

## Outgoing. Councillors say final farewell

The final meeting of the outgoing council opened with a round of heartfelt thanks, goodbyes, standing ovations and applause for its departing members.

Ten current councillors and Mayor Peter Kelly will not be at the table when the new council is sworn in next week.

Coun. Jerry Blumenthal, who did not reoffer, was thanked for his 14 years of service.

"He has certainly brought forward the interests of not only the north end of Halifax, but also the municipality in a clear and consistent way," said Coun. Jennifer Watts.

Coun. Bob Harvey also de-

## A Tale of Two Cities

"I ... think Charles Dickens said it best when he said, 'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, and the age of foolishness.'"

Coun. Bob Harvey during a short speech on his 23 years in municipal politics.

clared not to reoffer, after 23 years in municipal politics.

"I perhaps think Charles Dickens said it best when he said, 'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, and the age of foolishness,'" he lamented during a short speech.

Councillors Debbie Hum and Jim Smith are also retiring.

Coun. Bill Karsten con-

gratulated Mayor Peter Kelly for his 27 years in politics, lauding such accomplishments as the Harbour Solutions project, central library and convention centre.

"You've always done what you've felt is in the best interest of the people you serve," said Karsten, sparking a standing ovation from council and the gallery. ALY THOMSON/METRO

## Morse Teas. Council orders report on repainting

Regional council has ordered staff to prepare a report after a Toronto-based developer painted over the historic Morse's Teas sign in downtown Halifax.

Coun. Sue Uteck, a member of the heritage advisory committee, said the members were not told the sign would be painted over as part of a renovation, and requested the staff report on behalf of Coun. Dawn Sloane, who had already left Tuesday's meeting.

Uteck said the report should look into how it happened and what financial penalties, if any, could be imposed on developer Louis Reznick. Dozens of residents have expressed frustra-



Halifax residents are puzzled and angry over the abrupt removal of the sign on the Morse's Teas building. JEFF HARPER/METRO

tion since the disappearance of the logo that adorned one of the city's oldest buildings, located between Hollis and Lower Water streets. ALY THOMSON/METRO



# Province changing math courses to improve lagging test results

**Gunning for results.** Changes include extending Grade 10 math to full year



**ANDREW RANKIN**  
andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

Sarah Cann says she's surprised that just 56 per cent of Grade 12 students in Nova Scotia passed their provincial math exam last year, but the Grade 10 student suggests part of the problem is how material is taught.

"A lot of the material is crammed in," said Cann, who attends Sir John A. MacDonald High School. "It's a really tricky subject."

Education Minister Ramona Jennex was at the school Tuesday to announce that, starting next school year, Mathematics 10 will be a full-year rather than semestered course.

It's hoped the additional learning time will help improve senior students' math performances up from the bottom of the national pile.

Jennex said under the year-

long course, students wouldn't be taught as many new math concepts because the emphasis will be on studying core concepts in depth.

A business-math course, in which students will learn skills such as completing an income-tax form and making a budget, will also be included in the curriculum.

"When they get to university and when they get into the workforce, we're going to make sure they have a good foundation," said Jennex.

The program follows changes in other provinces.

Current teachers will receive more training but no new instructors will be hired to facilitate the program.

Jennex couldn't say exactly how much the program, which will be implemented over three years, would cost.

She also said one of the aims of the program is to see more students passing their provincial assessments. But she didn't set a specific target.

"We don't have one written down, but as an educator I'd like to see all our children pass the assessments," she said.



## Tidying up the pumpkin patch

Sam Richards organizes the pumpkin display at Mabou Gardens on the Waverly Road in Dartmouth. Police are urging parents and kids to be safe on Halloween. Check metronews.ca for a list of tips.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Expert sees changes as good start to improving mathematics program

A Halifax-based education expert says the province's decision to teach Grade 10 mathematics over a full year is a good start but it shouldn't stop there.

Paul Bennett, owner of Schoolhouse Consulting, said students understandably struggle to absorb complex material under the current semester-long course, and that's reflected in the Grade 12 provincial-assessment results.

"I'm encouraged that the

### Quoted

**"I'm encouraged that the government has realized that the current approach to teaching mathematics isn't working. Mathematics is in a woeful state in this province."** Paul Bennett, owner of Schoolhouse Consulting

government has realized that the current approach to teaching mathematics isn't working," said Bennett. "Mathematics is in a woeful state in this province."

Under the new program,

students will get 90 minutes of class time a day.

Bennett says the same approach should be applied to other core subjects, such as the sciences and languages, that are currently being

taught over a semester.

He said those subjects should be taught on a daily basis so that difficult concepts are constantly reinforced.

He said there are too many gaps in the current system.

Bennett said he's hoping that Jennex's announcement will be the catalyst for fundamental change in the education system.

"A lot of times we're not serving our students very well," he said.

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



Sir John A. MacDonald High students, from left, Brittany Melanson, Laura Kirkpatrick, Malcolm Anderson and Sarah Cann speak with Education Minister Ramona Jennex before a press conference to announce changes to Grade 10 math courses. JEFF HARPER/METRO

### Stroke of bad luck

## Power outage leads to drained pool

HRM officials say the Centennial pool will be open again in a few days. The pool had to be closed Tuesday when staff arrived to find it virtually empty after an overnight power outage led to a valve malfunction. **METRO**

### Weigh to go

## TV show seeks chubby canines

A Halifax-based production company is looking for four-footed candidates to take part in a televised weight-loss show. The show Dog Eat Dog will submit dogs



and their owners to a three-month boot camp weight loss program, supervised by a veterinarian. Residents of HRM with a portly pooch are invited to submit an application online at dogeatdog.ca no later than 5 p.m. Friday. Auditions will be held Nov. 24-25. **METRO**

### St. Francis Xavier

## Professors approve strike action

Professors at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish have voted 80 per cent in favour of strike action. Union president Peter McInnis says a provincial conciliator could be called in to help with contract talks. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### Creighton Street

## Man injured in stabbing

Regional police are looking for suspects after a stabbing that happened somewhere near Creighton Street Tuesday evening.

Officers were called to an apartment in the 2400 block of Creighton, between Buddy Daye and Cunard, at 8:20

p.m. They found a 46-year-old man who had been stabbed in the stomach.

The man was taken to the QEII by ambulance. His injuries are not considered life-threatening.

Police said Tuesday night that the investigation was in the early stages, but it's believed the man was stabbed somewhere in the neighbourhood, not in the apartment. **METRO**



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## Muskat Falls project

## Dexter stays mum about possible rate hikes for consumers

Opposition leaders say power users will ultimately pay for Premier Darrell Dexter's commitment to the proposed Muskrat Falls power project.

The accusations came during the legislature's question period Tuesday, hours after cost estimates for the hydro-electric project were revised upwards from \$6.2 billion to \$7.4 billion.

Both Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil and Tory Leader Jamie Baillie repeatedly asked Dexter whether ratepayers would pay more for their electricity.

Dexter sidestepped the question, arguing that the proposed project offers the most affordable solution to coal-based electricity. The province must shed six of its eight coal-generating plants by 2030.

The \$7.4 billion doesn't include funding the subsea link between Newfoundland

and Nova Scotia, to be covered by Nova Scotia utility Emera.

Dexter says he doesn't know what that revised cost will be, but said it's 100 per cent privately funded — a point McNeil took issue with.

"Every time he sees big business coming, he's left with no clothes," said McNeil.

But the premier shot back at McNeil, accusing the Liberals of trying to deregulate the electricity market, which he said would cause rates to skyrocket.

A spokeswoman for Emera said the company will provide the cost of the link during hearings before the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

Baillie chastised the premier for refusing to consider alternative energy sources like natural gas and importing electricity from Quebec.

"He's already made up his mind," said Baillie. "He's made up his mind regardless of the cost."

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Hunger. More Nova Scotians turning to food banks, report finds

The number of Nova Scotians using food banks over the last year has gone up, but donations to the province's biggest food-bank supplier have flatlined over that same period.

Feed Nova Scotia's Dianne Swinemar is calling on the province to help the organization with some of its operational costs, but more importantly, she says, the government needs to consider an income-supplement program both for struggling seniors and for the working poor.

According to Hunger-Count, an annual national survey of food-bank usage, Nova Scotians relying on food banks in 2012 increased by nearly five per cent compared to 2011.

That's double the national increase of 2.4 per cent.

Food banks in the Halifax Regional Municipality make up 55 per cent of the non-

## By the numbers

# 23,561

A total of 23,561 people in Nova Scotia used food banks during March 2011-2012.

profit organization's clientele. From 2008 to 2012, Feed Nova Scotia has struggled to meet a 25 per cent demand increase from those groups.

The report also shows that more people working below the poverty line are using food banks in Nova Scotia.

"There is a misconception that having a job is an instant ticket out of poverty," said Swinemar. "But there are many Nova Scotians who are working and still can't make ends meet due to insufficient wages and a lack of benefits."

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



The number of Nova Scotians using food banks in 2012 went up by nearly five per cent in 2012 compared to 2011. METRO FILE



This photo provided by the U.S. Coast Guard shows the HMS Bounty, a 180-foot sailboat, submerged in the Atlantic Ocean about 145 kilometres southeast of Hatteras, N.C., on Monday during Hurricane Sandy. The coast guard rescued 14 of the 16 crew members by helicopter. Hours later, rescuers found one of the missing crew members, but she was later declared dead. They are still searching for the captain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Search continues for captain of ship

## HMS Bounty. Missing 63-year-old man could still be alive, thanks to survival suit

The U.S. Coast Guard used ships and airplanes to search the Atlantic on Tuesday for the captain of the sunken HMS Bounty as the sailor's wife held on to a sliver of hope that he had survived the harrowing ordeal.

The coast guard was optimistic Robin Walbridge, 63, of St. Petersburg, Fla., could still be alive, thanks to his survival suit.

Walbridge went overboard early Monday when the Nova Scotia-built replica 18th-century sailing vessel rolled over in five-metre waves off the North Carolina coast.

Walbridge's wife waited in their St. Petersburg home to hear any word, surrounded by friends and crying often.

"He's been in many storms. He's been doing this a good portion of his life. He's been in lots of hairy situations and he's very familiar with the boat. Same boat for 17 years, he knows it like the back of his hand," Claudia McCann told The Associated

Press by telephone.

Tuesday's search for Walbridge was hampered by 4.5-metre waves, but the water temperature was about 25 C.

"There's a lot of factors that go into survivability. Right now we're going to continue to search. Right now we're hopeful," coast guard Capt. Joe Kelly said.

The coast guard rescued 14 crew members of the Bounty by helicopter Monday, all of whom were in good condition. Hours later, rescuers found missing crew member Claudene Christian, 42, unresponsive. She was later declared dead.

When the Bounty set sail last week, Walbridge believed he could navigate the ship around the storm. After two days in rough seas, he realized his journey would be far more difficult.

"I think we are going to be into this for several days," Walbridge said in a message posted Sunday on the vessel's Facebook site, which reads like a ship's log of its activities. "We are just going to keep trying to go fast."

His wife last heard from him on Saturday when he sent her an email. He told her not to worry about the hurricane.

## Historical connection

- Deceased Bounty crew member Claudene Christian was a rookie sailor with a lineage familiar to anyone who knew the story of the original HMS Bounty, whose crew famously took over the ship from its commander, Lt. William Bligh, in April 1789.

- The uprising was led by Fletcher Christian, whose story was told in the 1962 film for which the replica vessel was built. Claudene

Christian said in August that she was Fletcher Christian's great-great-great-granddaughter.

- Rochelle Smith, 44, met Christian this summer in Nova Scotia. "She loved the Bounty. She absolutely loved it. She was so happy to be on it and doing something that she found that she loved to do," said Smith, a medical transcriptionist who lives in Thunder Bay, Ont.

"He said, 'It's going to be fine,'" she said. "He said they were prepared. They were prepared. He was just watching to see what the hurricane was going to do."

By Monday morning, the vessel had started taking on water, its engines failed and the crew of the stately craft had to abandon ship as it went down in the immense waves.

By the time the first rescue helicopter arrived, all that was visible of the ship was a strobe light atop the mighty vessel's submerged masts. The roiling Atlantic Ocean

had claimed the rest.

The vessel left Connecticut on Thursday with a crew of 11 men and five women, ranging in age from 20 to 66. Everyone aboard knew the journey could be treacherous.

Coast-guard video of the rescue showed crew members being loaded one by one into a basket before it was hoisted into the helicopter.

When they returned to the mainland, some were wrapped in blankets, still wearing the blazing red survival suits they put on to stay warm in the chilly waters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# 'It is a devastating sight right now'



Brian Hajeski, 41, reacts as he looks at debris of a home that washed up onto the Mantoloking Bridge on Tuesday, the morning after Superstorm Sandy rolled through Mantoloking, N.J. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Tough road ahead.** Sandy will end up causing about \$20B in property damage and \$10B-\$30B more in lost business: Global Insight

The most destructive storm in decades to hit the most densely populated U.S. region cut off modern communication and left millions without power Tuesday, as thousands who fled their waterlogged homes wondered when — if — life would return to normal.

A weakening Sandy, the hurricane turned fearsome superstorm, killed at least 50

people during its path through the U.S., many hit by falling trees, and still wasn't finished. It inched inland across Pennsylvania, ready to bank toward western New York state to dump more of its water and likely cause more havoc Tuesday night.

"Nature," said New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, assessing the damage to his city, "is an awful lot more powerful than we are."

More than 8.2 million households were without power in 17 states as far west as Michigan.

One of the most dramatic tales came from lower Manhattan, where a failed backup generator forced New York University's Tisch Hospital to

relocate more than 200 patients, including 20 babies from neonatal intensive care. Dozens of ambulances lined up in the rainy night and the tiny patients were gingerly moved out, some attached to battery-powered respirators as gusts of wind blew their blankets.

What damage could be seen on the coastline Tuesday was, in some locations, staggering. "Unthinkable," New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said of what unfolded along the Jersey Shore, where houses were swept from their foundations and amusement park rides were washed into the ocean.

"It is beyond anything I thought I'd ever see. It is a devastating sight right now."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Is climate change to blame?

For more than a dozen years, climate scientists have been warning about the risk for big storms and serious flooding in New York.

- But they say it's unfair to blame climate change for Sandy and its destruction.
- "The ingredients of this storm seem a little bit cooked by climate change, but the overall storm is difficult to attribute to global warming," Canada's University of Victoria climate scientist Andrew Weaver said.

## Worst is over in Ontario. Toronto bears brunt of damage here in Canada

Superstorm Sandy has left tens of thousands of people without power in Ontario and Quebec, though experts say the worst appears to be over.

Environment Canada says the massive weather system dwindled overnight and should continue to weaken, but notes the provinces are still in for some wet, windy weather.

In Ontario, Toronto was hardest hit as 60,000 customers were without electricity Tuesday morning, leading to



A felled tree crushed a house in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

the closure of more than a dozen schools for the day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## So not PC. Loblaw label accused of 'tasteless' storm-related tweet

President's Choice has apologized for an "insensitive" tweet about the superstorm that has left many Canadians with a bad taste.

The private label of Loblaw posted Tuesday: "What's scarier? Hurricane #Sandy or a beverage with marshmallow eyeballs?" It linked to a recipe for "marshmallow bloodshot eyeballs," which suggests cutting marshmallows in half and putting a grape or blueberry in the middle.

The account was flooded

with replies criticizing the tweet as "awful" and "tasteless" for making light of a storm that killed more than 100 people across North America and the Caribbean, including a woman in Toronto.

President's Choice tweeted again about an hour later to say it was sorry.

"We sincerely apologize for the insensitive tweet," the company wrote. "We understand the seriousness of the storm and didn't intend to make light of it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

## The morning after



## 1 N.Y.C. bright lights. Snuffed out

A darkened Manhattan is viewed Tuesday after much of the city lost electricity. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

## 2 Definitely post-tropical. In W.Va

Joe Bays shovels snow in front of his home in Beckley, W.Va. The storm dumped up to 48 centimetres of snow in West Virginia. JON C. HANCOCK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## 3 Six feet under. Not deep enough

A casket floated out of the grave in a cemetery in Crisfield, Md. ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## 4 City's driving force. Flooded

Cars float in a flooded subterranean basement in the financial district of New York City.

ANDREW BURTON/GETTY IMAGES

## 5 Community. Incredible loss

Robert Connolly, left, embraces his wife Laura as they survey the remains of the home owned by her parents that burned to the ground in the Breezy Point section of New York. More than 50 homes were destroyed in the fire that swept through the oceanfront community during the storm. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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## Enough! Fed-up French PM orders ministers to attend classes on sexism

Politicians in France — which produced feminist icons such as Joan of Arc and Simone de Beauvoir — are going back to school.

They'll study ... sexism. French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault ordered the training after a series of gaffes by his ministers.

All of France's 38 ministers have signed up or are in the process of registering.

In the interest of gender equality, the female ministers are going, too.

Organizer Caroline de Haas says 80 per cent of politicians interviewed on French TV and radio broadcasts are men. She wants to fight

### Sweden's role

The anti-sexism training initiative comes — rather unsurprisingly — from Sweden.

- **Impressive.** Sweden tops the Global Gender Gap report list on female-male equality.

- **Unimpressive.** France is trailing at 48th place on the equality list.

against the "illusion" that France "has almost achieved equality." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### Egypt orders probe

## Sex assaults mar Muslim holiday

Egypt has declared war on sexual harassment.

President Mohammed Morsi has ordered his interior minister to investigate a rash of assaults during a just-ended Muslim holiday.

Morsi's government reported 735 police complaints about sexual harassment over the four-day Eid al-Adha holiday.

Morsi stressed the need to fight "all phenomena of moral chaos and abuses, especially harassment in Egyptian streets," spokesperson Yasser Ali said.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Blast from the past: Dud bomb shuts major airport



A bulletin board at Sendai airport in Japan tells the story — all flights cancelled. The reason: an unexploded wartime bomb.

KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Jitters in Japan.

All 92 flights in and out of Sendai are cancelled after wartime relic is unearthed on runway

A major airport in northern Japan was closed Tuesday after construction workers found an unexploded bomb believed to be from the Second World War.

All 92 flights in and out of Sendai airport were cancelled.

### Deadly rain

The United States heavily bombed Japanese cities during the Second World War and finding unexploded bombs is not unusual, even 67 years after Japan's surrender.

- **Tokyo tally.** Dozens of duds are uncovered in Tokyo every year.

celled after the 250-kilogram bomb was uncovered during construction near a runway, police official Hiroshi Ouchi said.

The bomb was identified as American-made and is believed to be a dud from the war.

It appeared to have a working detonator, and a military bomb squad was considering whether to move the bomb or explode it on the spot. Sandbags were piled up around the bomb. Officials said nearby homes might be evacuated.

They added the area had been sealed off and there was no immediate concern the bomb would explode.

Sendai airport, a regional hub for travel into northern Japan, was closed for months due to severe damage from last year's tsunami.

It is still undergoing reconstruction.

Officials said the airport would reopen as soon as the bomb was considered secure, possibly by Wednesday morning.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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# Paranormal activity

Feel like a Halloween scare? We take a look at the spookiest places in some Metro cities across Canada. For more cities and extended stories, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

## Edmonton

The McKay Avenue School is Edmonton's oldest brick schoolhouse, and it is reportedly haunted by a construction worker who fell from the roof while building an addition in 1912.



## Regina

Tales of moving chairs and the sounds of footsteps are just regular occurrences at Government House. The 100-year-old residence has been used for everything from spectacular royal parties to an infirmary for Second World War veterans, and is said to be haunted by a former cook.



## Toronto

Fort York was the site of a bloody battle back in 1813 and today, there have been many sightings of slain soldiers wandering the fort.



## Halifax

The Five Fisherman Restaurant is known for its great food and ambience, but some swear its building from the 1800s is home to ghosts. Staff stories include glasses flying off shelves with no one around and cutlery on tables moving then falling to the floor. There is even the story of a server being patted on the shoulder, only to turn around and see no one there.



## Calgary

Popular downtown watering hole the Rose and Crown was formerly a funeral home. The pub is believed to be home to multiple ghosts, including a young boy who reportedly died there.



## Ottawa

A spectral presence in a hotel room and eerie singing in a winding staircase prompt history buffs to explore the spooky tale of the owner of the Chateau Laurier, who perished on the Titanic.



## Saskatoon

The Nutana Cemetery was where the first settlers of Saskatoon buried their loved ones, with the first recorded burial happening in 1884. It is said that on cold, dark nights, you can hear children crying.



## Vancouver

Benedictine monks, a fake archbishop who hid a criminal past and several orphaned children are said to haunt the grounds of Ceperley House and the James Cowan Theatre in Burnaby, B.C.



## Winnipeg

The Manitoba Museum has many artifacts from different time periods — and rumoured spirits attached to those artifacts, drawing the attention of paranormal researchers.



## London, Ont.

Eldon House is one of London's oldest homes and is said to be haunted by Wenman Wynniatt, who died on his way to meet his love there. Legend has it he returned from the afterlife immediately after his sudden death to say goodbye to his lady.



TEXT: METRO; PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO IN TORONTO

## Poland. Halloween too devilish for bishops' tastes

Some Catholic bishops in Poland say that Halloween is harmful because it promotes "diabolical" behaviour and are asking believers not to observe it.

Archbishop Andrzej Dzięga in Szczecin, in the northwest, says in a letter to his parishioners that under the vestige of fun, Halloween can be "destroying the spiritual life." The "tricks" hide "diabolical attitudes" by encouraging readiness to harm others. He asks believers not to ob-

serve Halloween.

Warsaw Archbishop Kazimierz Nycz says in a website message that Halloween goes against the teaching of the church by promoting the "occult and magic."

Halloween comes on the eve of All Saints' Day, a national holiday when late relatives are remembered. It was introduced after the 1989 transformation to democracy and is increasingly popular chiefly among children. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Ducks walk among pumpkins on sale for Halloween in Warsaw, Poland, on Tuesday. Bishops in this predominantly Catholic nation take issue with the holiday and are trying to discourage their followers from celebrating it.

CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Party. Salem to cast its spell despite storm scare

Sandy threatened to play a nasty trick on Salem's annual Halloween bash in Massachusetts, but the storm caused only minor damage to the "Witch City" and the festivities will go on as planned.

Kate Fox, head of the city's tourism agency, says an estimated 50,000 costumed revellers are expected in the city on Wednesday for events culminating with an evening fireworks show over Salem Harbor.

Fox says the storm caused some power outages and forced a few attractions to close temporarily, but all of them were expected to open their doors for Halloween.

The festivities bring to a close the month-long "Haunted Happenings" celebration, which generates approximately \$25 million US annually for the city where the famous Salem Witch Trials took place in 1680.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



# Not the blogs! Flooding takes out HuffPo

## Data centres down.

Superstorm Sandy shuts Internet facilities in downtown Manhattan, affecting popular sites

Flooded data centres in downtown Manhattan brought down Gawker, Huffington Post and many popular New York-based blogs Tuesday while phone and cable companies were scrambling to assess damage and restore service in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

News and gossip site Gawker.com was still down in the afternoon, but Huffington Post was back online. Their webhost, Datagram Inc. said power was out, and flooding in their basement was preventing their backup generators from pumping fuel. Internet connectivity from three providers was also down.

Verizon Communications Inc., the biggest phone com-

### 'Telecom hotel'

- Data centres hosted in a "telecom hotel" that spans a whole block and houses Google's New York headquarters were reporting outages as well, apparently because backup power failed when commercial power was cut Monday evening.

pany in the region, said some facilities in downtown Manhattan are flooded, shutting down phone and Internet service.

Renesys Corp., which monitors the pathways of the Internet, said the storm caused major outages in New Jersey and New York. The city is a major transit point for international telecommunications traffic, and the firm said carriers were scrambling to route traffic around it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Stock exchange closed for second day

The streets surrounding the New York Stock Exchange are deserted Tuesday as financial markets remained closed for the second day due to Superstorm Sandy. Trading has rarely stopped for weather. A blizzard led to a late start and an early close on Jan. 8, 1996, according to the exchange's parent company, NYSE Euronext. The NYSE shut down on Sept. 27, 1985 for Hurricane Gloria. The exchange is expected to reopen Wednesday for regular trading.

RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## France. 160% beer-tax increase proves hard to swallow for EU brewers

France, the land of wine, is planning heavy taxes on beer, and that is not going down well with brewers — even in other nations.

President Francois Hollande is pushing through legislation to increase taxes on beer by 160 per cent to help fund struggling social programs as France tries to contain a budget deficit hit hard

by the economic crisis.

The tax would affect local brews and the 30 per cent of imported beer the French drink. The change means the price of a beer will increase by about 20 per cent in bars and supermarkets, said Jacqueline Lariven, spokeswoman for the French brewer's federation Brasseurs de France.

The Brewers of Europe trade group called the measure a "kick in the teeth" on Tuesday, especially since brewers have seen beer production plummet by six per cent and consumption by eight per cent in the EU since the region's economic crisis began in 2008.

Outside France, Belgium and Germany would be worst affected once the new legislation kicks in, said Pierre-Olivier Bergeron, head of the Brewers of Europe.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Calgary

## TransCanada plants survive Sandy's wrath

TransCanada says its power generating operations in the northeastern U.S. made it through Superstorm Sandy in good shape. The firm's president of energy and oil pipelines says the Ravenswood Power Plant in New York City churned out electricity throughout Monday night and Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Maps app

## iPhone software exec to resign

The head of Apple's iPhone software development was asked to resign after he refused to sign a letter apologizing for the flaws in Apple's mapping application, according to a published report.

The Wall Street Journal says Scott Forstall's refusal was the latest clash between him and other executives, and it led to the company's announcement that he is stepping down. Forstall's unit was responsible for the Maps application, which was unfavourably compared to the Google Maps app it replaced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# WHAT'S GIVING YOU GOOSEBUMPS THIS HALLOWEEN



**JUST SAYIN'**  
Paul Sullivan  
metronews.ca

Happy Halloween, the scariest day of the year. And if you think it's all fake blood, makeup and masks, this list of the Seven Scariest Things Happening Right Now will wipe that silly zombie

grin off your face.

**1 Mother Nature gone wild.** Earthquakes and tsunamis on the West Coast; Perfect Storm Sandy on the East Coast. Why has Gaia gone gaga? Is it something we did?

**2 Death by Mitt-adventure.** Mitt Romney must figure he's suffering from some Halloween curse. At the very moment it looks as if his U.S. presidential campaign is poised to take off, he is foiled by an Act of God that elevates Barack Obama, his opponent. It doesn't help that he was caught on camera during the Republican primary, saying it was "immoral" to borrow money for disaster relief. It's bad enough that the New York Times has endorsed Obama, but God? Geez, Louise.

**3 ...and 39 minutes later.** Not sure if it was immoral or not, but the U.S. response to the 7.7-magnitude earthquake off Haida Gwaii Saturday night was 39 minutes faster than the B.C. government's. The quake happened at 8:04 p.m.; the U.S. sent out a tsunami warning at 8:16. The B.C. government followed with a tsunami tweet at 8:55, long after everyone should have gone to higher ground. B.C. Premier Christy Clark was happy with her province's response. Nobody died, she said cheerfully. This time.

**4 Equal time for the undead.** Tony Bennett makes another album of duets with people who can still sing, play instruments and stand upright. For a man who recorded his first album in 1952, a hearty pat on the back ... and two words of advice: enough, already.

**5 Speaking of creepy.** Then there's Anne Coulter. If Tony Bennett should step aside for Michael Bublé or something, Anne Coulter should be subject to a restraining order. The scariest blond on the block calls the president of the United States a "retard" in her outside voice, and refuses to take it back or apologize, no matter how many Special Olympians she has offended.

**6 Lost in cyberspace.** The head of Apple's iPhone-software development loses his head over the iPhone 5 Maps application that directs people into the Twilight Zone more often than Google Maps, which it unwisely replaces. Almost simultaneously (or at least posthumously) the 260-foot yacht of deceased Apple founder Steve Jobs is launched. I hope it's using Google Maps to navigate.

**7 Most Haunted — NOT!** The annual list of most haunted places in Canada is doing the rounds again this year, and the usual suspects — the Banff Springs Hotel, Fort Henry in Kingston, Ont., and Gastown's Blood Alley — are on the list. But Canada's Scariest Place didn't even make the list: Where's Toronto City Hall? Rob Ford is comin' to git ya.

## Endangered moth larva a scary sight



LUI WEBER/REX FEATURES

### Animal behaviour

#### Larva of moth is fit for Halloween

If prizes for Halloween costumes were handed out in the natural world, this scary skull-faced creepy-crawly would surely win.

This extraordinary specimen is the larva of the pink underwing moth (*Phyllodes imperialis*), an endangered species only found in the Australian rainforest. **METRO**

### Photographer's viewpoint

"Sadly, this moth is very rare. I only know of a single adult seen last year, so I do not have photographs of the adult yet. This southern subspecies is listed as nationally endangered in Australia."

Botanist/ecologist and photographer Lui Weber explains

### Habitat

#### Photographer keeps finding more

All but one of the habitat locations are in south-eastern Queensland, but Lui says more discoveries are being made.

"It was only known to breed in a single location in upland rainforest. But this year I have discovered another three locations and a colleague has located one additional site, making five locations in total," Lui says.

**METRO**

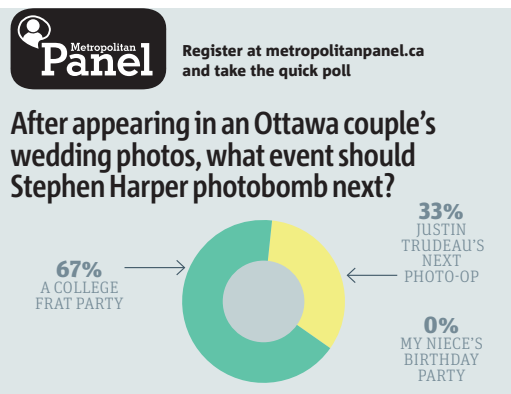
### Conservation efforts

#### Moth currently looking for a home

The Australian government has placed the caterpillar on its endangered list. "Potential breeding habitat is restricted to areas where the caterpillar's food plant, a native rainforest vine, occurs in subtropical rainforest," the government said. "Adult pink underwing moths require the darkness supplied by the vine to breed." **METRO**



Mitt Romney helps at a storm-relief event in Kettering, Ohio, on Tuesday. Hopefully, he isn't compromising his moral beliefs. GETTY IMAGES



**Twitter**

**@TanyaKavelaars:** Why are holiday wreaths going up the same day the patios are being taken down? #halifax #madness

**@haleyschmu:** I love how street names are carved into the sidewalks in #Halifax.

**@Julian\_Degs:** This is literally just another normal day in halifax, I would've never guessed its sandy

**@LukeMD6:** Just saw a stray piece of garbage fly into the Halifax Harbour due to the storm. Who do I report this to? #keepourharbourclean

**@gregpoirier:** Halifax residents outraged by mysterious loss of water at the mysterious pool they have never been to

**@RaeAnneJackson:** This place has the most coffee shops. I think I've been to a new one everyday. #halifax





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Walt Disney Company President and CEO Bob Iger, left, Star Wars creator George Lucas and actor Anthony Daniels attend the grand opening ceremonies for Star Tours — The Adventures Continue at Disney's Hollywood Studios theme park. DAVID ROARK/GETTY IMAGES

# LucasFilm flies into new era

**Walt Disney.** The Star Wars franchise, built from the ground up by George Lucas, sold for death-star-size sum of \$4.05 billion

**NED EHRBAR**  
Metro World News

The Walt Disney Company has purchased LucasFilm — which was behind the colossal Star Wars franchise — for

\$4.05 billion, the company announced Tuesday.

In addition, Disney announced that a new Star Wars film — rumoured to be Episode 7, which would follow Return of the Jedi chronologically — will be released in 2015.

That film will be just the beginning, as a Disney insider tells Metro that the new film “will be followed by Episodes 8 and 9, and our long term plan is to release a new Star Wars feature film every two to three years.”

He added that the company believes “there’s substantial pent-up demand” for more Star Wars films.

“For the past 35 years, one of my greatest pleasures has been to see Star Wars passed from one generation to the next,” franchise creator George Lucas said in a statement. “It’s now time for me to pass Star Wars on to a new generation of filmmakers.”

LucasFilm co-chair Kathleen Kennedy will become president of LucasFilm, while Lucas will serve as a creative consultant for any new films. Disney purchased Marvel Entertainment three years ago for an almost identical sum.

## Celeb tweets

Here is what some of the celebrity fans are saying about the switch.

- **Patton Oswalt (@pattonoswalt).** Not saying Twitter’s in a nerd frenzy about the Disney/Lucasfilm STAR WARS VII news, but I tried to post earlier & got my arm ripped off.
- **Harry Knowles (@headgeek666).** Busy running a mini-army to get ready for Halloween. But, this STAR WARS/LUCASFILM/DISNEY thing — it’s what I as a fan have dreamt of. YES!
- **Paul Scheer (@paulscheer).** I just got so excited when I heard they were making
- **Han Solo (@hansolo).** I’m mostly just excited for Star Wars theme parks.

a Star Wars VII then I remembered the last three.

# The blood splattered Great White North

**Thrills and chills.** The Canadian horror genre has a healthy collection of classics that have influenced the U.S. industry



**IN FOCUS**  
Richard Crouse  
scene@metronews.ca

There’s plenty to be afraid of in Canada — and no, I don’t mean Quebec’s mythical werewolf, the loup-garou or Dalton McGuinty’s proroguing of the legislature.

We may be known as a mild mannered people, but put us in front of a camera

and all of a sudden we turn into creepy Canucks.

The Great White North has a blood splattered cinematic tradition, dating back to The Mask, the first Canadian film widely distributed in the United States.

A low budget 3D thriller about an archaeologist who believes he is cursed by a mask that causes him to have weird nightmares and even murder people, the movie was a cheapie knocked out to cash in on the 3D craze started by movies like House of Wax.

Although it missed that movement by a few years, it may have inadvertently started a new trend. Since the release of The Mask, which coupled tried-and-true 3D with experimental electronic music to heighten its spooky effect, Canadian filmmakers

have been scaring the toques off their countrymen and women.

Where would Canadian horror movies be without Valentine’s Day? In 1981, My Bloody Valentine, a creepy little slasher flick shot in Cape Breton, ran afoul of the ratings board but has since gone on to become a cult classic.

In 2008, a new type of terror reared its ugly head on the day Hallmark created. In Bruce MacDonald’s Pontypool, the townsfolk of a small Ontario town are infected by a deadly virus on Valentine’s Day — A God bug that turns them into flesh-eating zombies. Not even Cupid with a quiver full of arrows can keep this town safe.

Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer, an Ottawa-shot chiller, has cult hit written all over it.

Breathing the same fetid air as genre classics Dead Alive and Demons, it has all the earmarks of a midnight movie in the making — humour, a tormented anti-hero, crazy creatures, gallons of guts and goo crowned by an over-the-top performance from horror legend Robert “Freddy Krueger” Englund.

No look at Can Con chills would be complete without at least one David Cronenberg movie. The Brood stars Oliver Reed, Samantha Eggar and Black Christmas (another great Canadian horror) star Art Hindle in a story about a brood of mutant children. Writer Ken Hanke called it one of the director’s most “unsettling” films, which is really saying something if you’ve seen Rabid, Shivers or Videodrome.



Olivia Hussey starred in Black Christmas. HANDOUT





Joe Simpson

## Simpson busted after wife finds photo of young male model

Joe Simpson's alleged affair with a 21-year-old male model apparently only came to light when his wife, Tina Simpson, discovered some photos of the young man, Bryce Chandler Hill, in her home and confronted her husband, according

to Radar Online.

"Joe got busted after Tina found some modeling pictures of Bryce in her home," a source says. "They were taken in and around the house, and she was suspicious because she didn't have a clue who the boy was."

After finding photos of Joe and Bryce together, Tina decided to confront Joe, who was on a trip to New York at the time — so that's just where she went, according to the website.

"When she got there, she called him down to the lobby and they thrashed it out," the source says.

"It was there and then that Joe confessed he was having a gay affair with Bryce, who had left the hotel just days earlier, and Tina demanded a divorce."

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

### The Word



## Lance Bass not bothered over Timberlake wedding snub

Lance Bass doesn't harbor any hard feelings toward Justin Timberlake for not getting invited to Timberlake's recent lavish wedding in Italy.

"No one was invited to Justin's wedding. None of \*NSYNC were invited," Bass tells Hollyscoop. "They had a small group

of people. We did an engagement party for him, but nothing since then."

Bass must not have read the reports from US Weekly last week that \*NSYNC members JC Chasez and Chris Kirkpatrick did in fact score invites.

But Bass and Timberlake seem to agree on one thing: "I highly doubt that we will ever have a reunion," Bass says.

"I mean, never say never. But it won't be any time soon."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Charlize Theron

## Theron, Hardy butting heads on set

Tensions are reportedly running high on the set of the Mad Max remake — and it's all due to Tom Hardy's method acting, which is driving co-star Charlize Theron crazy, according to Radar Online. "Charlize and Tom are just not getting on together," a source says.

"In between takes Tom likes to stay in character and is constantly talking to himself and mumbling things. Charlize has tried to talk to him during breaks in filming, but he shuts himself off from the rest of the cast." The source adds that Theron thinks Hardy is "a weirdo."

### Twitter



@Joan\_Rivers

Thinking of everyone in NY and on the east coast. Stay safe! I'm stuck in LA and unable to appear live on @QVC. This truly NEVER happens...



@AlbertBrooks

The news seems so happy when the storm is worse and sad when it isn't.



@lindsaylohan

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@SteveMartinToGo

I hereby resign from public life. Okay, I'm back!



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Half Moon Golf Club is located just beyond the craggy coastline of Montego Bay. HANDOUT

# The sun is shining — the golf course is sweet

**Tee time.** The Jamaican Open offers a laid-back chance for amateurs to hit the links with the pros



**BRIAN KENDALL**  
canadiangolfttraveller.com

A favourite stop of royalty and high society, Montego Bay's posh Half Moon, A Rock Resort, hosts both amateurs and pros in a prestigious and fun annual championship dating from 1953.

Teeing off under the swaying palms alongside Jim Thorpe, Olin Browne, Russ Cochrane and other golf stars in the Jamaica Open is a fantasy come true for amateur golfers.

Just as much fun is the beachside après-golf parties with new celebrity friends at the resort, which is the host and sponsor of the national championship.

Played Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, the tourney is open to both professionals and amateurs who carry a maximum handicap of 5.0.

Far more democratic is the one-day pro-am preceding the main event, which accepts entries from teams of three golfers of varying abilities (provided each golfer carries an official handicap) for the entry fee of \$600 (all prices in U.S. dollars).



The resort is posh inside and out. HANDOUT

Perhaps as big a draw as the Jamaica Open's purse of \$85,000 is the opportunity for golfers to luxuriate for a few days at a Caribbean resort whose guest list has included the Queen and John and Jacqueline Kennedy, who enjoyed a month-long vacation here just prior to his inauguration as U.S. president in 1961.

Half Moon takes its name from the property's famous crescent-shaped beach of pure white sand, which in 1954 inspired investors to turn an abandoned sugar plantation into one of the world's elite resorts.

Located near bustling Montego Bay on Jamaica's northwest coast, Half Moon, which has been lavishly renovated over the past decade, sprawls across 400 acres of

some of the most dramatically beautiful terrain in the Caribbean.

Accommodations include rooms and suites, as well as 33 elegantly accessorized four-to-seven-bedroom private villas, each with a pool and full-time staff.

Furnished throughout with Queen-Anne-inspired pieces and vibrant Jamaican paintings, Half Moon retains the feel of a traditional island plantation, yet with all the modern amenities.

There are 54 swimming pools, 13 floodlit tennis courts, the award-winning Fern Tree spa, one of the Caribbean's best-equipped equestrian centres and a protected lagoon where guests can swim with Reggae and Toni, the resident Atlantic Bluenose dolphins.



One of the 54 swimming pools at Half Moon, A Rock Resort. HANDOUT

**Exclusively online**

**Where to find Brian online**

- **Online.** Follow Brian Kendall on twitter @cdngolfttraveller and visit his website, [canadiangolfttraveller.com](http://canadiangolfttraveller.com)

But the focus for golfers is Half Moon Golf Club, a lushly tropical Robert Trent Jones Sr. design opened in 1961 (and masterfully updated by Roger Rulewich in 2005) that flows seamlessly through gentle foothills just beyond the craggy coastline.

Half Moon is also ideally situated for golfers who want to linger a while and play other courses.

A quick shuttle ride

away is Cinnamon Hill Golf Course, a Robert von Hagge-Rick Baril design that weaves through the 19th-century ruins of Rose Hall plantation.

And just beyond that is White Witch Golf Club, an evilly difficult Hagge-Baril design offering views of the Caribbean Sea from no fewer than 16 holes.

Entry to the Lime Jamaica Open is \$650 for professionals; \$500 for amateurs.

Special Jamaica Open room rates at Half Moon start at \$215 per night single occupancy and \$240 per night double.

2012 marks the fifth consecutive year that Half Moon has hosted Jamaica's premier golf tournament, and the eighth time in the resort's 58-year history.

3  
LIME



# Memorable places to spend NYE

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Rio de Janeiro. THINKSTOCK

## Rio de Janeiro

**Why?** Brazil is a nation of party animals. More than two million local "Cariocas" dressed all in lucky white clothes hit Copacabana Beach, throwing offerings, including flowers, into the sea to ocean goddess Iemanjá. After midnight, people hit hotels for formal New Year dinners or gather for street festivities.

**Where to be at midnight:** The dancing kicks off when the live samba and rock bands hit the four stages on Copacabana Beach at 8 p.m. Midnight sees a spectacular display of fireworks set off from a dozen barges moored along the coast.

**Top toasting tippie:** Brahma beer, champagne and caipirinha — the national cocktail made with the potent Brazilian sugar cane rum Cachaca.

## New York City

**Why?** The celebrations in New York are epic, with something for everyone, from restaurants with fancy tasting menus to wild club nights, street parties and the iconic Times Square celebrations.

**Where to be at midnight:** More than a million revellers will hit Times Square for the 100-year-old giant ball drop tradition, when a celebrity lowers a crystal-clad ball at midnight and a ton of confetti — tiny wishes for 2013 written on official confetti by people from around the world — will be released into the square.

**Top toasting tippie:** No drinks are allowed in Times Square, but the rest of the city rings with the popping of champagne corks.

## Istanbul

**Why?** The locals celebrate New Year's big-style here. They start with a fish supper in a restaurant, then join street parties from 11 p.m., where local bars serve drinks to revellers. The area around Taksim hosts the biggest gathering, but skip it for the cooler street parties in Nisantasi or Kadikoy.

**Where to be at midnight:** The sky lights up with fireworks that you can see wherever you are in the city. Stay close to the water and you'll see the explosions illuminate the staggering mosques and minarets of Sultanhamet.

**Top toasting tippie:** Try a glass of the national drink, Raki.



## Berlin

**Why?** Berliners know how to have a good time. Join a million cheerful Berliners for the world's largest outdoors New Year's Eve party on the epic two kilometre party mile.

**Where to be at midnight:** At Brandenburg Gate, the New Year is marked with fireworks, lasers shows, lots of beer-drinking, and live music. Clubbers can watch an alternative fireworks display at the vast Kulturbrauerei, where 15 rooms pulse to techno, rock and house.

**Top toasting tippie:** Sparkling wine or mulled wine if it's cold.



## Koh Phangan Island, Thailand

**Why?** Every year up to 30,000 hedonists from all over the world gather to dance on the beaches of this idyllic

Thai island for the ultimate Full Moon party. There are parties every month when the yellow moon lights up the silvery sands, but the biggest parties are on Dec. 25 and 31. The heart of the action is at the crescent-shaped beach at Haad Rin, lined with clubs and bars blasting out different music styles.

**Where to be at midnight:** A massive fireworks display lights up Haad Rin beach, which is a riot of sound systems, jugglers, fluorescent body paint, glow-sticks and fire-eaters.

**Top toasting tippie:** Local beer, Chang, or a Thai Bucket, a sharing cocktail of Red Bull, coke and cheap rum, vodka or whiskey.



## Madrid

**Why?** The Spaniards only get going at midnight anyway, so you're in the right place for a New Year's celebration.

For Dec. 31, you also get the novelty factor of ringing the New Year in with a particularly Spanish tradition, eating a grape for every chime once the clock strikes midnight — supermarkets stock up ahead of the occasion.

**Where to be at midnight:** After a huge meal, the heart of the action is the Placa del Sol, where cheerful people in party hats and wigs pop their lucky grapes before reaching for the Cava.

**Top toasting tippie:** Spanish sparkling white Cava.



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# Gruesomely delicious dip with black bugs is made for tombstone nibbling

Roasted eggplant and pepper dip with black "bugs" is a gruesomely delicious dip that can be topped off with "tombstone" toast slices. This baba-ganoush-inspired recipe reaches new levels of darkness with rich pomegranate molasses, balanced by heady garlic, cumin, coriander and bell pepper.

Garnished by insect-specks of black sesame or poppy seeds, it will have your guests crawling with excitement inspired from beyond the chip bowl.

1. Preheat oven to 400 F (200 C).

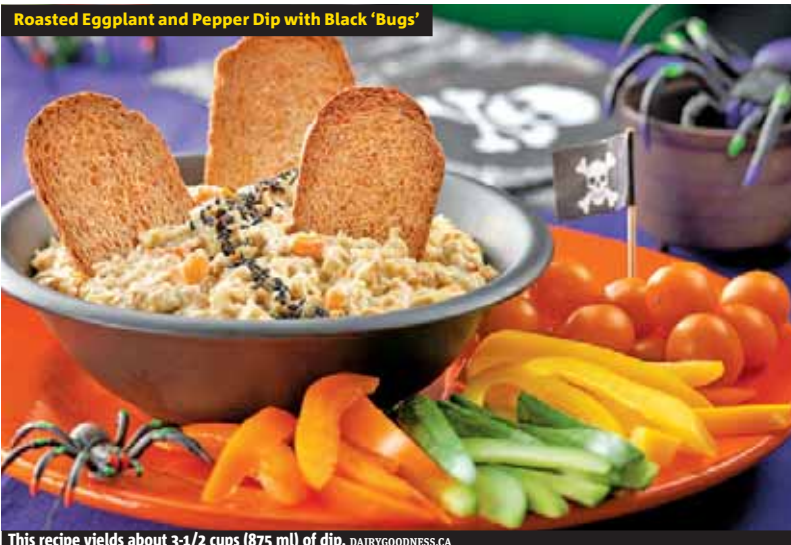
2. Place eggplant directly on oven rack. Place whole pepper, onion and garlic cloves in a small roasting pan and toss olive oil. Roast vegetables for 45 minutes, tossing every 15 minutes, until vegetables are charred and eggplant is deflated (remove garlic and onions as they are roasted; they will be ready before pepper). Remove eggplant from oven with tongs, place in roasting pan with other vegetables, and allow to cool.

## Ingredients

- 1 large eggplant (1-1/2 lbs/750 g), pricked all over with a fork
- 1 sweet orange pepper
- 1 onion, quartered
- 4 large cloves garlic
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- 1-1/2 tsp each (7 ml) cumin seeds, coriander seeds
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) nigella, black sesame or poppy seeds, divided
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) salt
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 cup (250 ml) thick plain yogurt (Greek)
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) pomegranate molasses
- Flatbread, toasted pita or sliced naan to serve

3. While vegetables are cooling, in a small, dry skillet, combine cumin, coriander and 1 tsp (5 ml) of nigella seeds. Cook over medium heat, shaking pan often for 2 minutes until fragrant and seeds begin to pop. Transfer to mortar and pestle (alternatively use spice grinder

## Roasted Eggplant and Pepper Dip with Black 'Bugs'



This recipe yields about 3-1/2 cups (875 ml) of dip. DAIRYGODNESS.CA

or place in a bowl and crush with the back of spoon) and grind until seeds are crushed, but not perfectly smooth.

4. When vegetables are cool enough to handle, cut egg-

plant and scoop out flesh onto a cutting board. Peel, core and de-seed pepper and place flesh on board with onion and garlic cloves. Roughly chop everything together and scoop into a serving bowl. Stir in toasted

seeds, salt, lemon juice, yogurt and pomegranate molasses. Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate for up to 2 days. Top with remaining nigella seeds arranging as bugs.

DAIRYGODNESS.CA

## Drink of the Week

### Dark and Gloomy Blueberry Smoothie

This gloomy-coloured smoothie, perfect for a spooky Halloween breakfast, is packed with blueberries, bananas, milk and a handful of spinach. Halloween, after all, is all about disguises!

- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) milk
- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) loosely packed fresh baby spinach
- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen blueberries
- 1 banana, peeled
- Pinch ground nutmeg
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) pure maple syrup, or to taste

In a blender, combine milk, spinach, blueberries, banana, nutmeg and maple syrup and blend until smooth. Add more maple syrup, if desired.

Serve immediately. DAIRYGODNESS.CA

## Student voice

### Sporting a sensational CV

Stephanie Wetmore  
Graduate  
Master's in Sports Industry Management  
Georgetown University

Graduate  
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
UCLA  
TalentEgg.ca

I am a 24-year-old athlete with three major transitions that have led me to where I am today. My first transition was from high school to university. At 17 years old, I was nearing the end of my high school career and started to consider my options for the future. As an accomplished tennis player, I had a few choices for my next step, which included pro tennis, university in Canada or a tennis scholarship in the United States. I was on the fence because I thought I could be successful on the pro tour, but at the same time university seemed like the logical option. I ended up accepting a full tennis scholarship at UCLA. I chose school over the pros and it was one of the best decisions I've made. The second transition was from undergraduate to graduate school when I entered Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. for sports management. Grad school helped me step out of my comfort zone and apply the material I was being taught in



Stephanie Wetmore PROVIDED

the workforce. After finishing grad school, I'm now experiencing my third (and most difficult) transition. My path of education is complete, and I'm now setting out to create a new one in the communications field.

#### What I'm doing now

During my graduate program, I started working as an assistant tennis coach at Georgetown, which was a change from being an athlete. I'm now working part-time as an assistant tennis coach at

Georgetown and part-time as a communications intern at Lagardere, a public relations company in Washington, D.C. Another hurdle I've had to overcome in my transition to the "real world" has been securing employment in the U.S. Canadian students who attend school in the U.S. are eligible for up to 12 months of employment. After that, you need to find a company that will sponsor you for a work visa. I'm currently in my 12-month period after school, and who knows if I'll find a company to sponsor me, but I'm trying to gain as much experience as I can.

#### My recommendations for employers, career centres or schools

Look at the entire person as opposed to the GPA, work experience or resumé. My undergraduate GPA was not as impressive, but my other attributes I developed during my athletic scholarship made me invaluable as a potential hire. Playing varsity tennis taught me leadership skills, time management and teamwork. Employers and schools need to look at the whole package. Sometimes the most important aspects cannot be expressed on paper.

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## YOUR SHOPPING DESTINATION

Every day the neighbourhood comes alive at The Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing with one of the most unique shopping, dining and entertainment experiences on the East Coast.

Now in its fifth year of operation, the Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing has become a real destination attraction for shoppers from HRM and beyond, according to Seamus David's Pub owner Beverly Hynes, who opened her popular eating establishment seven months ago.

"It's so accessible, it's right off the highway and there's tons of parking," she says. "But once you're here you feel like you're in a picturesque village out in the country."

Part of that feeling is created by the architecture of the Village Shops. The buildings seem like they have been here for decades with their distinctive mixture

of brick and stone claddings and turn-of-the-century style. And with woodland trails complete with a running brook, bridges, and the Pondside Amphitheatre skirting the complex, it's tempting to bring a picnic and stay all day. Or buy one.

"There's such a wide variety of eating establishments," Hynes says. "Anything you're in the mood for you can find it here: Great pub food, oriental, ethnic, take-out. There's even a bakery for dogs."

Once inside, the Village Shops offer a shopping experience that is guaranteed to please even the most discerning shopper, with all the latest fashions, gift ideas, one-of-a-kind items and much more. Along with great selection comes the kind of individualized service and attention to detail that one might expect from a small-town shopping experience.

"There's a real selection of great shops here with more opening up all the time," Hynes says. "Wheaton's has just opened a new outlet here. So has City Streets. There's really something for everyone."

And The Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing offer something else that is often missing in a modern shopping experience: Sun and stars.

"Because it's not an indoor mall it has a real village atmosphere," Hynes says.

Hynes says the Village Shops will soon be getting ready for another Christmas season, complete with giveaway draws, hot chocolate, outdoor carollers, and some of the best holiday decorations in the city. "It's a special place during the Christmas shopping season. I know they have a lot of great activities planned this year. I hope everyone will put us on their Christmas list."

## EXOTIC FLAVOURS AT MODERN ORCHID

The exotic flavors of the Far East come together at Modern Orchid. The fully licensed restaurant located in the Village Shops North features authentic Southeast Asian cuisine served fresh everyday.

"We blend the flavours of Thai, Chinese, Vietnamese, Singaporean and Filipino cultures," says Modern Orchid manager Amanda Peng. "Nothing is frozen. All our dishes are made completely from scratch in-house, including sauces, appetizers, and entrees."

Modern Orchid offers free delivery within four kilometres for any order more than \$28 and 10 per cent off takeout orders all the time. A Thai dinner combo is only \$12.95. And Modern Orchid has plenty of room for large events and parties.

"Like" Modern Orchid on Facebook for more information.

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AbyTal is opening its new online store soon at [abytal.com](http://abytal.com).

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## CHILL AT CITY STREETS

There's something new at The Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing from a local company that has been providing great brands and quality service in Nova Scotia for 38 years. The latest City Streets location is the company's seventh location in Nova Scotia and eighth overall.

Although City Streets is popular throughout the region, the new store is only the second location in Halifax. "We're very well-known in the small markets," says City Streets president Gary Fullerton.

"But with only one store in the Halifax market we thought there was an opportunity to be better known here in Metro. Dartmouth Crossing was the logical place to do that. It's a progressive retail centre and a great location to showcase what we do. We think the park will continue to grow with all kinds of exciting things happening."

Since opening its first store in 1974, City Streets has established a solid reputation for women's and men's fashions with a host of brand names including Hurley, Oakley, Billabong, Hunter, Toms Shoes, Silver and many others. "We're always bringing in new brands," Fullerton says. "We shop in numerous markets abroad to bring in products you won't find in other shops."

But Fullerton says the real secret to City Streets' success is the service, the attention to detail and the relaxed atmosphere. The store features a unique "chill area" with comfortable seating and spacious dressing rooms where customers can relax and take their time to find exactly what they're looking for.

"We've worked hard to create a comfortable environment in the store. It's one of the things our customers love about us."

## TAKE A SHOT AT PRO HOCKEY LIFE

Whether you are an aspiring pro, a weekend warrior or about to step on the ice for the first time, Pro Hockey Life in Dartmouth Crossing has everything you need to be on top of your game.

"We carry equipment and products for all levels of play," says Pro Hockey Life store director Mark Painchaud. "We also have a large selection of NHL team apparel. Fans of every team will find merchandise in stock."

Add to that an extensive range of services including skate sharpening, repairs, team sales and custom orders. "We do it all," Painchaud says.

With an unparalleled selection of equipment, apparel and accessories at competitive prices, backed up by the PHL price guarantee, Pro Hockey Life is the ultimate destination for hockey players and fans alike.

## SEAMUS DAVID'S PUB HAS IT ALL

With a forested hiking trail running beside it, Seamus David's Pub just might have the nicest outdoor patio in HRM. But that's not the only thing that keeps customers coming back to this cosy neighbourhood pub in the heart of The Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing.

"You need three things to succeed," says pub owner Beverly Hynes. "Great food, great atmosphere and great service. We've got them all."

Seamus David's Pub serves up popular pub food with an Irish flair, along with 14 beers on tap. Everything is made from scratch, with fresh local produce in season. "We've got fantastic fish and chips, great steaks and our pan-fried haddock is very popular," Hynes says. "We also have daily specials."

Seamus David's also features live entertainment on weekends with Roger Lavatte every Friday night.

**Modern Orchid**  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN CUISINE

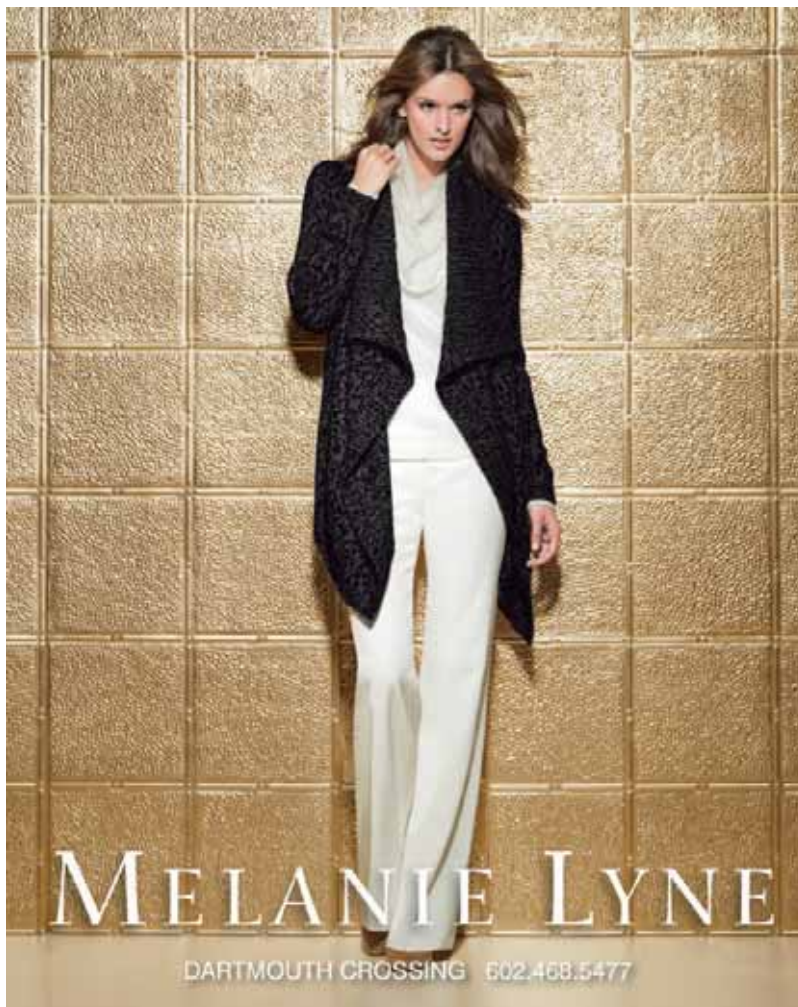
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# TREND MEETS TIMELESS AT MELANIE LYNE

Melanie Lyne is where trend meets timeless. Where fashion savvy makes business sense. And where exceptional style makes a statement.

From office day to chic night, Melanie Lyne is your style destination with perfectly cut and tailored garments in rich, researched fabrics inspired from European runways. You are sure to make a remarkable entrance with their unique dresses in a variety of lengths, styles, and colours for any occasion on your social calendar. Every outfit has that little sophisticated je ne sais quoi.

In addition to Melanie Lyne's always chic and unique dress options, the store offers a fabulous array of holiday choices to customers who often host family and friends at home. Who says you can't look great at your own dinner party? Customers can find all they need for every holiday occasion, whether it is an office party, a chic chalet weekend or dinner with family and friends.

The collection offers versatile pieces that can be worn to many occasions, dressed up or down. Dresses that make an entrance using bold colours and beautiful textures, satin blouses that can be worn as a chic top or layering piece, and tailored suiting that takes you from



Gerri King, left, assistant manager at Melanie Lyne Dartmouth Crossing and sales associate Sheryl Chambers.

office day to cocktail night. Must-have styles like the peplum top will definitely delight. For the hostess, luxuriously soft cardigans, sweaters with a touch of shine, and versatile yoga jeans are style

solutions that can take you through any occasion. To complete these perfect outfits, simple stud or dangle earrings, geometric evening clutches and loop scarves add the final touch. For the busy

socialite or the humble hostess, Melanie Lyne has it all.

Melanie Lyne offers high-quality, on trend and modern fashions from size 2 to 16. For more, visit melanielyne.com.

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# LAURA HAS ALL YOUR MODERN FASHION NEEDS

Laura at The Village Shops at Dartmouth Crossing meets all of the modern woman's fashion needs.

From a wide selection of dresses in a variety of styles, prints and colours, to sleek separates such as tunic tops, knitwear, blouses and skirts, Laura has everything you need for a fabulous wardrobe. And with a large selection of on-trend accessories — everything from jewel tone print scarves to retro-inspired jewelry including cocktail rings, necklaces and bracelets — you are sure to make a statement.

The Laura Superstore at Dartmouth Crossing offers merchandise from all three Laura divisions: Laura with sizes from 6 to 18; Laura Petites with sizes from 2 to 16;



Angie Fisher is assistant manager at Laura Dartmouth Crossing.

and Laura Plus with sizes from 14 to 24 and Laura Plus Petites.

The Laura special dress department features a stunning selection of special occasion dresses including chic day dresses and formal evening gowns perfect

for any type of event.

The Laura Superstore at Dartmouth Crossing also offers customers complementary wardrobe building appointments with the store's fashion associates. Wardrobe building appointments can be booked

directly with store management staff and are by appointment only.

Laura staff are trained to assist customers to build a versatile and fabulous wardrobe foundation that meets all their fashion needs.

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# Frk finding his way after 'first good game'

**QMJHL.** Red Wings scout predicts 'avalanche of good things' for right-winger



**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

A lot of things have gone right for a lot of players during the Halifax Mooseheads' 13-game winning streak. But it wasn't until Sunday that Martin Frk got in on the fun.

"It's the first good game I've played from the beginning of the season," Frk said in brutal self-assessment after recording a goal and an assist in the Mooseheads' 7-3 home win over the P.E.I. Rocket.

Several factors contributed to the 19-year-old right-winger's first-star performance on Sunday.

Playing on a line with two-way workhorse Brent Andrews, the Detroit Red Wings second-round pick is getting more opportunities to carry the puck and benefits from having Andrews around to take care of the heavy lifting defensively.

"He's very easy to play with," Frk said. "We worked well with A-Ry (Andrew Ryan)

## Quoted

**"He's hard on himself. Offensive guys sometimes (focus) a lot on numbers. We want him to focus on the process and the numbers will follow."**

Mooseheads head coach  
Dominique Ducharme

and I hope we stay together and put up more points."

Meanwhile, two important people were in town: His father visiting from the Czech Republic and Red Wings director of player development Jiri Fischer.

After a weeklong visit, Frk didn't want his dad to go home without seeing him play a good game.

Fischer, meanwhile, saw plenty of room for improvement in Frk's play after Saturday's 6-2 win over the Chicoutimi Saguenéens, and met with both the Mooseheads and Frk afterward.

He said Frk — a go-to player on every team he's ever played on — is adjusting to not being on the top line and is learning to be dangerous in a supporting role.

After giving Frk constructive criticism on Saturday night, Fischer was pleased with the six-foot 203-pounder's response the next day.

"The way Marty is moving with the puck, the way he is approaching the offensive zone, carrying it into traffic and challenging guys one-on-one, holes open up and his linemates get open," Fischer said during Sunday's game. "That's exactly what the Mooseheads are looking for."

Frk sees time on Halifax's top power-play unit and the Mooseheads are hoping he will provide a second wave of offence for the rest of the season.

Fischer, speaking in the second intermission on Sunday, said it was only a matter of time before Frk's goalless drought would end. Less than 12 minutes later, Frk scored.

"When one does go in, it's going to start an avalanche of good things," Fischer predicted. Stay tuned.



Mooseheads right-winger Martin Frk notched his first goal of the season on Sunday. The second-round draft pick of the Detroit Red Wings hopes many more will follow. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## Wounded Tigers still scratching out wins



Tigers fifth-year standout Rieka Santilli led the team in scoring this season. NICK PEARCE/DALHOUSIE ATHLETICS

The injury-riddled Dalhousie Tigers are roaring into the Atlantic University Sport women's soccer playoffs.

Despite playing with as few as 16 healthy players in recent weeks and missing a number of starters, the defending champion Tigers managed a second-place finish at 10-2-1 and are riding an eight-game winning streak heading into championship weekend in Sydney.

"Just hats off to the team for digging deep and players coming up big in roles where we hadn't planned to use them," said Tigers head coach Jack Hutchison.

## Winning tradition

# 11

The number of AUS titles Dalhousie has won in 28 seasons — the most in conference history.

"Everybody's adjusted to having different players in the lineup on different days and that's a huge credit to them."

Injuries will remain a factor this weekend. Starting backs Megan Willox (concussion) and Andie Vanderlaan (mononucleosis) will remain

on the sidelines.

But the Tigers scored a conference-best 31 goals this season led by a half-dozen from fifth-year standout Rieka Santilli, and Hutchison said the Tigers will have success in Saturday's semifinals if they stick to what got them this far.

"It's easy to say and hard to do, but it's just another game," Hutchison said. "There's a lot that rides on it, but just go and play."

"As long as they believe in (what we've done) up until now and in the effort they've given, I think we'll be alright." **MATTHEW WUEST/METRO**



# Former Moosehead files complaint against the CHL

**Junior hockey.** Unpaid wages complaints are latest strategy from the fledgling players' union

A 19-year-old hockey player in Nova Scotia has filed the first in what could become a string of union-supported claims for unpaid wages against Canadian Hockey League teams.

Joshua Desmond, formerly a defenceman for the Halifax Mooseheads of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, filed a complaint with Nova Scotia's Labour Standards Division last Friday alleging he is owed "approximately \$12,000" based on average hours of work between August 2011 and April 2012.

If successful, the complaint could open the door to a crush of similar claims worth potentially millions of dollars in retroactive pay.

"I am filing this complaint

## Quoted

**"We look upon our players as student athletes. We've never considered ourselves professional."**

Dave Branch, president of the CHL, says his league is not in violation of any federal or provincial laws

because I was not being paid minimum wage," Desmond wrote by hand on the complaint form.

He earned \$48 per week for approximately 41 hours of work, the complaint alleges.

Now playing for the Yarmouth Jr. A Mariners, he's being represented in his labour complaint by a lawyer with the newly minted Canadian Hockey League Players' Association.

"While I was playing, I never even thought about wages," said Desmond, who had five goals and 11 assists in 52 games with the Mooseheads

last year.

"But now that it's all over with and the CHLPA has notified me of all these things I didn't know about, it made me think about what I should do. I chose to do this."

Bobby Smith, owner of the Mooseheads, said wages earned by his players are only part of the benefits they receive.

Travel expenses, summer training, strength and conditioning coaches and psychologists are all part of the compact, he says.

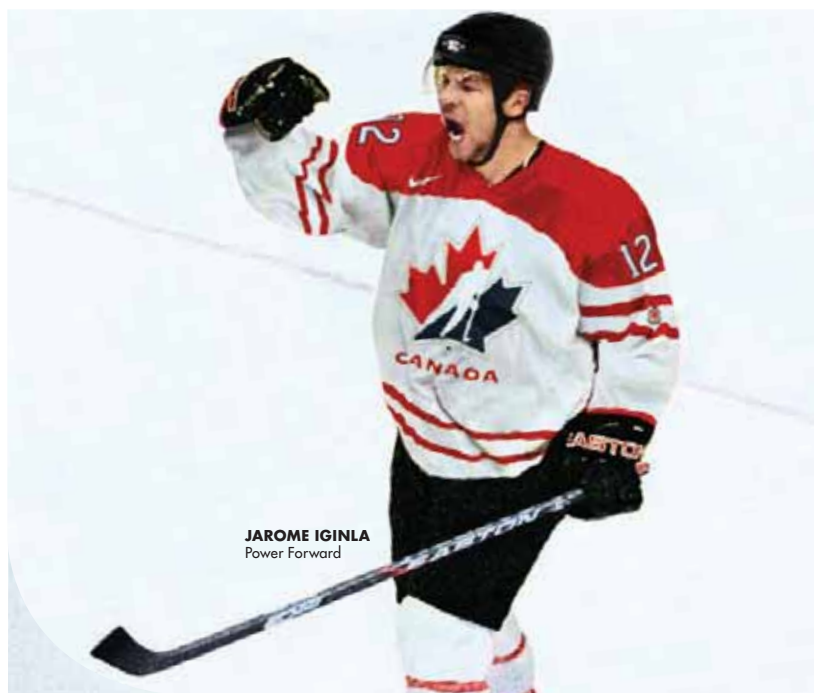
"For me, the deal is you're going to come and play for the Halifax Mooseheads and we'll do everything we can to make you an NHL player," he said in an interview.

"If you don't have it in you, we're going to pay for your education. I think it's a pretty darn good deal and a far better deal than anyone might get if they said they deserved minimum wage."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Former Halifax Mooseheads defenceman Josh Desmond has filed a complaint with Nova Scotia's Labour Standards Division alleging he is owed "approximately \$12,000." METRO FILE



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Heat forward Chris Bosh, left, guards Boston's Kevin Garnett on Tuesday night in Miami. CHRIS TROTMAN/GETTY IMAGES

# Heat ring in new season with a win

**NBA.** Rival Celtics fall in Miami, but so does superstar James

LeBron James got his ring, then got cramps.

The Miami Heat found a way to beat their biggest rival anyway.

Dwyane Wade scored 29 points, James finished with 26 points and 10 rebounds while missing much of the second half, and the reigning NBA champion Heat beat the Boston Celtics 120-107 on Tuesday night in the season opener for both teams.

Ray Allen, in his first game with Miami since leaving Boston over the summer, added 19 points for the Heat, as did Chris

## Opening night

120 107

Heat

Celtics

Bosh, who had a late flurry that helped Miami prevail.

Rashard Lewis scored 10 for Miami, which saw a 19-point lead trimmed to four in the final minutes before finding a way to close it out — even while James, last season's MVP of both the regular season and NBA Finals, was in the locker-room for the second time because of the cramps.

Paul Pierce scored 23 points, Rajon Rondo had 20 points and 13 assists, and Leandro Barbosa

## They meet again

As former Celtic Ray Allen entered the game for the first time, he tapped Kevin Garnett on the shoulder as he sat on the Boston bench; Garnett didn't even flinch, refusing to acknowledge the gesture.

- Allen didn't seem flustered. His first shot in a Miami uniform was — what else? — a corner three-pointer, which swished.

scored 16 for Boston.

The Celtics, who lost to the Heat in last season's Eastern Conference finals, were not on the court for the ring ceremony.

They almost wrecked the festive mood with a late comeback.

An 11-2 run late in the fourth quarter got Boston within 111-107 on Courtney Lee's layup with 2:09 left. That was the last Celtics' hurrah — Bosh scored the game's next seven points, sealing it for Miami.

The Heat got their championship rings from owner Micky Arison and watched the banner commemorating last season's title get hoisted in a pre-game ceremony replete with an indoor fireworks show.

More fireworks came at the finish — Rondo was called for a flagrant foul against Wade with 16.9 seconds left, as if either team needed a reminder that these sides simply don't like each other very much.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Hockey. Simmonds the target of racism once again in Czech league

The Czech Republic's ice hockey federation says it has fined a club after its fans aimed racist chants toward Philadelphia Flyers winger Wayne Simmonds, who is playing in the top Czech league during the NHL lockout.

In a statement issued Tuesday, the federation said the Chomutov Pirates were fined 30,000 koruna (\$1,554) by its disciplinary committee for the chants directed toward Simmonds, who currently plays for

the Liberec White Tigers.

The incident took place during Sunday's game between the Pirates and the Tigers.

Chomutov has apologized to Simmonds and the club said it would do everything it can to prevent any such abuse in the future.

Last year, a banana was thrown at Simmonds from the stands during an NHL pre-season game in London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Wayne Simmonds with the Philadelphia Flyers at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 26. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES FILE

## MLB

### Romero's rough season ends with elbow surgery

As Ricky Romero struggled through his disastrous 2012 season, it was often speculated he must have been hurt. Now we know he was.

The Blue Jays' 27-year-old left-hander had arthroscopic surgery two weeks ago to "clean up" scar tissue that had built up in his left elbow, he and the club announced Tuesday.

Romero admitted he pitched through soreness on the outside of his elbow through most of the season, but said he wasn't sure if it caused his poor performance. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Lockout

### Players get escrow before missing another pay period

Locked-out NHL players had the pain of missing their first full pay period offset Tuesday when they received last season's escrow cheque.

Players were returned 7.98 per cent of what they earned last year, plus interest, one day before their second paycheck of the 2012-13 season would have been due, according to a spokesman for the NHL Players' Association.

The escrow payments amount to about \$80,000 for every million dollars a player earned — before deductions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## NBA. Irving leads path in Cavaliers' opening-night win

Kyrie Irving scored 29 points, Anderson Varejao had a career-high 23 rebounds and the Cleveland Cavaliers opened the season with a 94-84 victory over the short-handed Washington Wizards on Tuesday night in the first game on the NBA schedule.

Rookie Dion Waiters added 17 points for the Cavs, who led by 16 in the third quarter but needed big plays from Irving and Varejao in the final minutes to hold off the Wizards, who scored the first 14 points of the fourth. Varejao had a career-high nine assists, two setting up dunks by Tristan Thompson of Brampton, Ont.,

## In Cleveland

94 84

Cavaliers

Wizards

in the last two minutes. Thompson finished with 12 points, 10 rebounds and 5 assists.

Jordan Crawford scored 11 points to lead the Wizards, who were without star point guard John Wall, power forward Nene and forward Kevin Seraphin. Wall, the former No.

1 overall pick, is expected to be out until late November with a knee injury.

Irving, the NBA's reigning rookie of the year, began his second season with a strong performance alongside Waiters, a surprising No. 4 overall pick. Waiters didn't start a game at Syracuse, but Cavs coach Byron Scott has been impressed with his progress and wanted to pair his two young guards together from the outset.

They played well in spurts, but made enough mistakes to keep Scott from giving them too much freedom.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cavaliers point guard Kyrie Irving makes a pass on Tuesday in Cleveland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toronto firm Baka Communications' huge grid of solar panels above their new-age filling station is one of the biggest in North America. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

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### Autopilot



**AUTO PILOT**  
Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

Being the centre of our part of the universe, the sun has always maintained a pretty big ego. But we must let that slide, because it's always been quite generous about sharing its energy.

Flora and fauna have long ago figured out how to directly use the sun's energy. Cars, not so much. Solar-powered cars are coming, but they're still science experiments.

There has always been the indirect way — grabbing solar-generated electricity to throw on the grid,

and then letting electric cars draw power from that grid.

It's a strategy that is gaining more and more traction these days, due to clean energy issues and the subsequent and rising popularity of the modern electrical-driven automobile.

A big case in point is the structure that suddenly appeared last week on the premises of Baka Communications. The Toronto-firm is billing it as the largest solar charging station in Canada that is not run by a government or utility-company entity. It's also among the largest in North America.

"We also have the largest private fleet of Chevrolet Volts in Canada," says Baka's president, John Marion. At the station's ribbon-cutting ceremony on Oct. 23, eight of the Volts were simultaneously charged,

showing off the eight available charging stations, positioned under the carport's massive 20-kilowatt solar-panel roof.

Marion initiated the project after installing some solar panels at his house. It got him thinking about what he could do in the same green vein at the office.

"Next year, we're scheduled to do our rooftop project, an 80-kilowatt system," adds Marion. "When you combine them, they'll be able to provide 50 per cent of our total electrical needs at this location, including the full charging of all nine cars for 20-kilowatt-per-year driving."

The electric fleet and the two big solar panels will set the company back about \$1 million dollars. Marion obviously feels the investment is justified.

"At the end of the day, I want to promote green ... When we're bidding for work, clients want to know how green you are. We do a lot of green things, like recycling and conservation. Those are the norms. But nobody can come close to what we're doing. At the same time, it's got to be in you. It's in me."

It's in Marion so much he wants to make Baka an "evangelist for the environmental movement." In this regard, Baka is blessed by its location adjacent to the much-travelled 427 Highway — about 275,000 vehicles a day will pass by the firm's electric carport.

"We hope a lot of people will see it, to ultimately create discussion and awareness that solar powered charging stations are actually here. We also hope that Saas' phone rings

off the hook, because we should have more of these."

The Saas in question is Saas Perez of Renewz Sustainable Solutions, which built and created Baka's system. Perez says the station is the first in North America to be based on a combination of Italian structural technology and North American electrical technology.

The company will be introducing a home version in 2013. Also unique will be the ability to reserve a charging station via a mobile device, but only when Baka is ready to give public access to these charging stations.

How will Baka charge public users for charging? Marion said they wouldn't have to pay. Why no payment I can't help but ask...

"Because it's free," says Marion, pointing to the sky.

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Horoscopes

**Aries**

**March 21 - April 20**  
Someone is lying to you. Someone believes you are easy to fool. It's not true, is it? The planets indicate you need to keep your wits about you today. If you are careless, it could cost you more than just money.

**Taurus**

**April 21 - May 21**  
Do you deal with a problem in a purely logical manner or do you allow your instincts to guide you? The best way is to combine the two, to find a happy medium. Use both sides of your brain today.

**Gemini**

**May 22 - June 21**  
You will hear something today you don't want to know about, but you can't escape the facts. Like it or not, changes have to be made. The only question is: Will you make them or will you leave it to others?

**Cancer**

**June 22 - July 23**  
You think too much. The more you dwell on a problem today, the more of a problem it will become. Divert your mind in a more positive direction and, who knows, maybe the problem will resolve itself.

**Leo**

**July 24 - Aug. 23**  
Try something different today, something you would not usually dare to attempt. Yes, it may go wrong but, more likely, it will go right and you will impress a lot of people. You may even impress yourself.

**Virgo**

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**  
You will come under pressure from someone who thinks they have the right to tell you what to do. They don't, and the sooner you let them know that the sooner you will be rid of their annoying presence.

**Libra**

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**  
You like to take your time when making a decision but that luxury is not available to you at the moment. Listen to what your inner voice tells you and act on it immediately. That means today, not tomorrow!

**Scorpio**

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**  
Don't waste your time and energy on things of no importance. If you allow yourself to be sidetracked, it could take quite a while before you are able to get back on course. Focus only on what is important to you.

**Sagittarius**

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**  
Stand up for yourself. Refuse to do anything that does not feel right. Others will try to convince you that they know best but if your instincts tell you otherwise, you would be a fool not to listen.

**Capricorn**

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**  
Life is too short to waste time wondering if other people approve of your actions. For too long, you have hesitated because you were not sure you were doing the right thing. Ultimately, there is no right thing. Just act.

**Aquarius**

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**  
A friend or work colleague will try to drag you into a dispute that really has nothing to do with you and if you are smart, you will refuse to get involved. You are not your brother's keeper, nor anyone else's.

**Pisces**

**Feb. 20 - March 20**  
You know what you want and you know where to get it but certain people don't want you to have it. Can they stop you? Only if you let them — so don't let them. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Cities

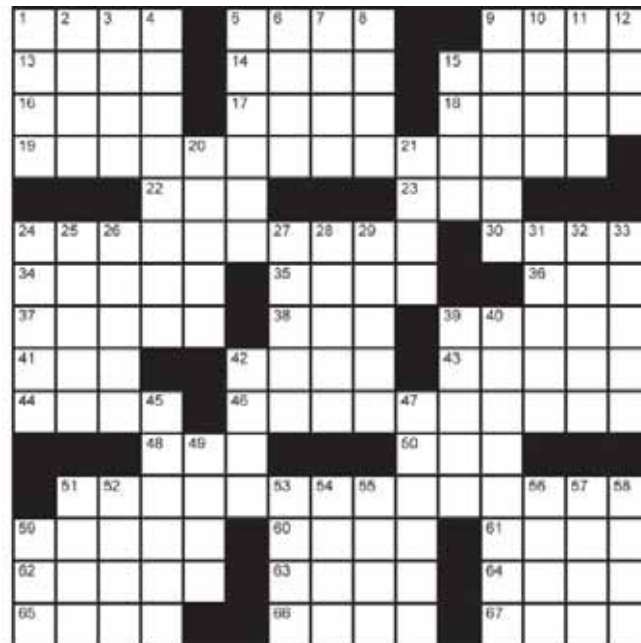
Across

1. \_ \_ \_ : state west of Minnesota (2 wds.)
5. Chilled, as tea
9. Big smile
13. Trumpet or bugle
14. Connecting point
15. Angered
16. "Moi aussi" (2 wds. minus one O)
17. "Sad to say..."
18. Fortune teller's deck
19. BC city on north bank of the Fraser, in same metro area as 51-Across (2 wds.)
22. Copy
23. "Yessir"
24. Canada's largest province's capital (2 wds.)
30. MDs
34. Store event (2 wds.)
35. Big fuses
36. Doubled, a dance
37. Heads: Fr.
38. Life story, for short
39. Internal-combustion engine
41. "Raggedy" doll
42. Wipe (up)
43. Go out with \_ \_ : end noticeably (2 wds.)
44. Aussie hoppers, familiarly
46. Largest southern Alberta city
48. Can. neighbor
50. Perform
51. Suburb of BC's largest city, directly across Burrard Inlet from that city, and part of its metro area (2 wds.)
59. "Tell \_ \_ I Love Her":

- 1960 teenage tragedy hit
60. *Return of the Jedi* forest dweller
61. Je t' \_ : "I love you" (Fr.)
62. Aquatic mammal
63. *Scream* star Campbell
64. Mounties, briefly
65. Like a busybody
66. Pre-1917 Russian leader
67. "For" votes

Down

1. Ankle-to-knee bone
2. Be overly fond
3. "Pretty maids in \_" (2 wds.)
4. Can be understood
5. "Right away!" (3 wds.)
6. Equine youngster
7. Red-wrapped cheese
8. \_ \_ Arnaz: Lucille Ball's husband
9. Prepared parmesan
10. Hard-to-find
11. "Do \_ \_ else!": parent's threat (2 wds.)
12. Aerialist's "insurance"
15. Teeny
20. Fencing swords
21. Negative votes
24. Abu Dhabi neighbour whose capital is Doha
25. "We \_ \_ MSG": restaurant claim (2 wds.)
26. "Jack Sprat could \_ \_ fat..." (2 wds.)
27. Broadcast alternative
28. Numskull
29. Canine or bicuspid
31. Eightsome
32. Cheech's partner



33. Beetle Bailey's nemesis
39. Explorer \_ \_ Polo
40. Newspaper item recording a death
42. Yawn-inducing
45. BC's second-largest city, in the same metro area as 51-Across
47. Broadway "angel"
49. Our sun, say
51. Canada joined this mutual defense org. in 1949
52. Ins and \_ \_
53. Air passageway
54. Stuns
55. \_ \_ Scotia
56. "Miami \_ \_" : Don Johnson show or movie based on it
57. Actress Watson of Harry Potter movies
58. Salesmen, for short
59. Horror film star Chaney

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

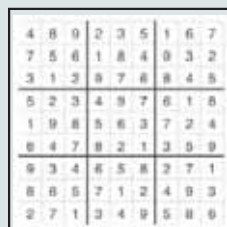
See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers).

Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku



**Today**

15°/13°  
Rain  
90%

**Thursday**

16°/10°  
Showers  
80%

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